

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Stefan Schreck) Group Art Unit: 3738
Application No.: unknown)
Filing Date: Herewith) Examiner: unknown
For: Minimally-Invasive Heart Valves)
with Wireforms)

)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O.Box 1450
Washington, D.C. 22313-1450

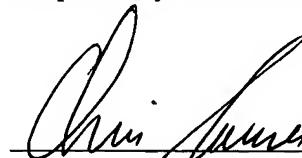
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure set forth under 37 CFR § 1.97, Applicant encloses the attached form PTO/SB/08. Pursuant 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d) copies of the listed references are not being submitted herewith because they were previously cited or submitted to the U.S. Patent Office in prior applications Serial No. 10/185,812 and 09/549,413, upon which the present application relies for priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

No fee is believed due; however, if a fee is due please charge to Deposit Account No. 501225 (ECV-5541DIVCON).

Respectfully submitted,



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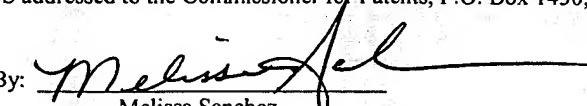
Dated January 28, 2004

CUSTOMER NO. 30452

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that on January 28, 2004 the above-identified document (along with any identified papers referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage in an Express Mail envelope, Mailing Label No. EV337120945US addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

By:



Melissa Sanchez

<p>Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)</p>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	Unassigned
				Filing Date	Unassigned
				First Named Inventor	Schreck, Stefan
				Art Unit	Unknown
Examiner Name	Unknown				
Sheet	1	of	4	Attorney Docket Number	ECV-5541DIVCON

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. Number – Kind Code ² (<i>If known</i>)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
AA	US-2001/0002445 A1	05/31/2001	Vesely
AB	US-2001/0007956 A1	07/12/2001	Letac et al.
AC	US-2001/0021872 A1	09/13/2001	Bailey et al.
AD	US-3,839,741	10/08/1974	Haller
AE	US-4,056,854	11/08/1977	Boretos et al.
AF	US-4,084,268	04/18/1978	Ionescu et al.
AG	US-4,477,930	10/23/1984	Totten et al.
AH	US-4,506,394	03/26/1985	Bedard
AI	US-4,592,340	06/03/1986	Boyles
AJ	US-4,960,424	10/02/1990	Grooters
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AQ	US-5,411,552	05/02/1995	Andersen et al.
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AW	US-5,549,665	08/27/1996	Vesely et al.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <small>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</small>				Complete if Known	
Sheet	2	of	4	Application Number	Unassigned
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				First Named Inventor	Schreck, Stefan
				Art Unit	Unknown
				Examiner Name	Unknown
				Attorney Docket Number	ECV-5541DIVCON

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Document Number Number – Kind Code ² (If known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	
AX		US-5,554,185	09/10/1996	Block et al.	
AY		US-5,571,174	11/05/1996	Love et al.	
AZ		US-5,582,607	12/10/1996	Lackman	
BA		US-5,607,465	03/04/1997	Camilli	
BB		US-5,669,919	09/23/1997	Sanders et al.	
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BM		US-5,957,949	09/28/1999	Leonhardt et al.	
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				First Named Inventor	Schreck, Stefan	
				Art Unit	Unknown	
				Examiner Name	Unknown	
Sheet	3	of	4	Attorney Docket Number	ECV-5541DIVCON	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	T ⁶
		Office Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (If known)		
	BQ	WO	96/19159		06/27/1996	
	BR	WO	96/40006		12/19/1996	
	BS	WO	97/09947		03/20/1997	
	BT	WO	97/09949		03/20/1997	
	BU	WO	97/46177		12/11/1997	
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	BW	WO	99/33414		07/08/1999	
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	BY	WO	99/56665		11/11/1999	
	BZ	WO	00/41652		07/20/2000	
	CA	WO	00/44313		08/03/2000	
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	CI	EP	0 362 113	B1	04/14/1993	
	CJ	EP	0 532 678	B1	05/08/1996	
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	CL	EP	0 850 607	A1	07/01/1998	
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Sheet	4	of	4	Attorney Docket Number	ECV-5541DIVCON

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date	T ⁶
		Office Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (If known)	MM-DD-YYYY	
	CN	EP	1 088 529	A2	04/04/2001	
	CO	DE	4 316 971	A1	05/21/1993	
	CP	SU	1 621 912	A1	02/13/1989	

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), volume-issue number(s), page(s), date, publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶
	1	Grismer, et al.; <u>A Suture Holder and Separator Attachment to the Starr-Edwards Prosthetic Valve Holders</u> , <u>Surgery, Gynecology & Obstetrics</u> , Pages 583-584, March 1965	
	2	Pavcnik, et al.; <u>Development and Initial Experimental Evaluation of a Prosthetic Aortic Valve for Transcatheter Placement</u> , <u>Cardiovascular Radiology</u> , Vol. 183, Number 1, Pages 151-154	
	3	Bailey, <u>Percutaneous Expandable Prosthetic Valves</u> , <u>VIII—Valvuloplasty, Congenital and Pericardial Heart Disease</u> , Pages 1269-1276.	
	4	"An Introduction to Materials in Medicine," B. Ratner, A. Hoffman, <u>Biomaterials Science</u> , (7.2 Cardiovascular Applications) pp 289	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applic